

Appl. No. 09/998,050

**REMARKS**

This is in response to the Office Action of 4/6/2005. Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 10-21 have been rejected, and Claim 9 has been objected to, but the Office Action indicates that it would be allowable if written in independent form.

Rejected Claims 1-8 and 10-21 are canceled. Claim 9 is amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 1 and is now in allowable form.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By Kevin H. Fortin

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